

Dear John, Caroline and Louise!

January 27 '51

Greetings everyone and here we are telling you the latest news from Holland. We have received the beautiful candy box, nicely wrapped in x-mas paper and we have followed your instructions, Caroline. But in order to make only one Dutch child happy we have given it to a whole first grade class so that every child could enjoy it. I am sure you will hear more about it after you or better to say, the school has written you about it. They were very pleased, Thanks again.

Here everything goes and we are still happy together. Although the situation is getting worse every day. The Dutch Government has collapsed this week and the Queen is trying very hard to get things going again. The members of the Government cannot keep up with the economic situation here and at the same time meet all defense conditions as is was told through the Atlantic Tad. There is a great fear for a Russian move this way and we will be fighting with our hands if it would start any day. Food is getting scarce and very expensive and because the loss of Indonesia we are absolutely flat on our backs. The beauty of this country has gone, may be for ever and there are no hands anymore to get things straight again. June is feeling a little better and we both have decided to leave as soon as we can and forget about Holland. June thinks of leaving the 8<sup>th</sup> of February and will go back to Ann Arbor and start working. I have to wait here until I get my papers from Washington, which may take about another month or may be more. It will be very hard for me to be separated but we just have to get a start and we can't start here so the only thing is split-up and start seperately until we get settled. After June has worked for a few months and I leave she will help me to get across because we don't have the money to come together. Fortunately we don't worry about it and keep on doing our best. I keep working here as long as I can and have to settle whatever I can get. I am willing to work and do anything. It is even better to wash dishes in the USA than to have a good job here. I am making 250 guilders a month and this is considered good for two young people and can't even afford living in an apartment.

As long as June feels alright, I am willing to stick it out. If a war would break out while June is in the State and I am herewe are lost. But we hope for the best. I will tell you all about the further developments and I am sure you will hear from June after she arrives in the states. Please say hello to Mother and Dad and tell them we received their wonderful fruitcake this week and I will write them soon too. Say hello to Bob and Dotty and Steve and we hope to be all together again soon. Greetings to the Greshaws and everybody we know in Charleston. Receive my very best wishes to all three of you. Good luck and please don't worry about us. We get back, whatever happens! God's blessings for all the wonderful Campbell's and XO (??) for Louise!

So long, Your brother, Tiek